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TEAM CAPTAINS ARE NAMED FOR RELIEF DRIVE

CAMPAIGN TO RAISE MONEY FOR STARVING PEOPLE OF NEAR EAST

JOSEPHINE'S QUOTA IS \$1700

Syrians, Armenians, Greeks and Persians Among Persecuted—400,000 Orphans Face Cold World

The next big drive for the relief of the suffering Christian people is the campaign to raise money for those in the Near East who are on the verge of starvation. It is a pitiful appeal from men, once strong, but whose strength has been sapped by starvation and brutal treatment by the Turks; an appeal from famished mothers who are clasping stunted babies to their breast. These people are Syrians, Armenians, Greeks and Persians whose homes were destroyed and whose lives were wrecked by the invading enemy.

The United States is asked for \$30,000,000 in subscriptions to sustain the lives of these 4,000,000 people until the next crop harvest—to nurse them back to health and strength after their merciless persecution. Congress has already voted \$100,000,000 for such relief, but there are millions of the starving and much money is needed. Three ships loaded with supplies are already on the way to those countries. The drive to raise the \$30,000,000 will begin February 24. The total amount to be raised in the state of Oregon is \$184,000, and Josephine county's quota is \$1,700.

E. L. Coburn, who is chairman of the county campaign, has received the following telegram, signed by Wm. Howard Taft, Henry Morgenthau, Charles Evans Hughes and Cleveland H. Dodge:

"We deeply appreciate your acceptance as chairman, thus taking responsibility in your county for making effective President Wilson's appeal in behalf of four million destitute sufferers, including 400,000 orphans—Christian Armenians, Syrians and Greeks—in western Asia. Cables just received indicate that the need is more urgent than heretofore realized. Official advices state that not more than one-fourth of the deported Armenians can survive the winter if quick relief is not sent. Prompt and generous action is necessary to save these ancient Christian races. Many counties have already gone over the top. Can assure you that your effort is saving lives and the work is abundantly worth while."

Following are the names of team captains for the Josephine county drive: S. Maxwell, Herman Horning, Ed. G. Harris, E. H. Balzger, Amos Williams, C. H. Demaray, Mort Luckett, Isaac Best, A. K. Cass and Geo. C. Sabin. The committee is desirous of raising the entire amount in one day, if possible.

HOLSTEIN COW MAKES NEW COAST RECORD

Sacramento, Cal., Feb. 18.—A new Pacific coast record for short-time butter production has been established at Knightsen, Contra Costa county, by Adirondac Waltske Dairy Maid, a registered Holstein cow, according to H. V. Bridgeford, one of the owners of the cow. In an official test under the supervision of the University of California testers, she made 41.013 pounds of butter from 831.7 pounds of milk in seven days. The former coast record of a fraction more than 40 pounds was held by Tilly Alcatraz, holder of the world's long-time butter and milk production record.

GERMAN REDS AND BELGIANS FIGHT

Spartan Leaders Beaten Off By King Albert's Troops When They Attempt to Plunder

Duisburg, Rhenish Prussia, Feb. 18.—In view of the disturbances here Wednesday, Belgian troops arrived in the city Saturday night, reaching the town hall simultaneously with Spartacus leaders from Hamburg, who desired to compel the burgomaster to surrender 50 rifles that had been seized.

The Spartacans tried to escape in a motor car and hurled hand grenades at the Belgians. Three of the Spartacans were severely wounded. The Belgians have occupied the town hall.

Berlin, Sunday, Feb. 16.—Spartan troops from nearby towns marched into Gelsenkirchen, in Westphalia, early this morning and overpowered the local military and police forces, a portion of which went over to the Spartacans. The plundering of the city followed.

The doors of houses were blown in with hand grenades and much booty was secured.

WHISKEY ELEMENT FIGHTS PROHIBITION

Cincinnati, Feb. 18.—A referendum of elections will be sought in 14 states on the federal prohibition amendment. The national association of distillers and wholesale liquor dealers announces that the states are Arkansas, California, Colorado, Idaho, Maine, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, Utah and Washington.

PORTLAND WELCOMES 65TH COAST ARTILLERY

Portland, Feb. 18.—Covered as thick as a pastry cook's shop on Christmas eve was the union depot's platform when the trains carrying the 65th regiment, coast artillery corps, steamed in, ten minutes apart, at 3:45 p. m. yesterday. Aboard were 40 officers and 900 enlisted men, 80 per cent of Colonel Benjamin H. Kerfoot's command hailing from Oregon. The regiment is on the last lap of its transcontinental trip to Camp Lewis, where its commanding officer expects nearly every man will be mustered out of the service within a fortnight.

CITY OF MARSHFIELD HAS \$100,000 LOSS

Marshfield, Ore., Feb. 18.—Four buildings, including the Lloyd hotel, were burned here, the loss being estimated at \$100,000. The stocks of a dozen retail stores were destroyed. The guests left the burning hotel in their night clothes. The fire originated near a cafe.

STRIKE BREAKS OUT ALONG THE RHINE

Copenhagen, Feb. 18.—A general strike has been declared in the Ruhr industrial district, along the Rhine. Spartacans have occupied Bochum and other places. It is reported.

+ VARDAMAN, DEMOCRAT, CRITICISES WILSON +

Washington, Feb. 18.—A discussion of the league of nations developed unexpectedly in the senate today when Senator Vardaman, of Mississippi, demoted, declared that the league is unconstitutional and criticized the president for asking congress to remain silent on the subject until he returned.

HUNS FOUGHT FOR MORE TIME UNTIL THE LAST

PRESENTED GENERAL FOCH WITH 23-PAGE PROTEST TO LATEST ARMISTICE

BUT THEY SIGNED DOTTED LINE

Claim Germany Did Her Best to Comply With Terms, and Have Grievance Against Poles

Paris, Feb. 18.—When the Germans came to sign the terms of the new armistice, Erzberger handed General Foch a 23-page memorial attempting to justify Germany's attitude and maintaining that she had done her best to meet the obligations.

The delegation also brought a memorial from Chancellor Scheidemann, protesting against the increasingly hard terms, complaining that Germany was forced to evacuate Poland, abandoning the German people there. They demanded that the allies compel the Poles to cease their attacks against the Germans, but the allies have already done this.

Weimar, Feb. 18.—The German cabinet first voted to reject the new allied armistice terms, but later changed their vote.

BULGARS PROVE THEMSELVES ADEPTS IN THE ART OF MURDERING INNOCENTS

Piot, Serbia, Jan. 10.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press)—Confirmatory evidence of the slaughter of Serbian priests by Bulgarians during the war, was given to a representative of the Associated Press today by the Rev. Milica Yontschitch, pastor of one of the churches who personally witnessed the massacre of 20 of his colleagues and one Serbian officer. All, he says, were shot and many were burned alive.

Father Yontschitch escaped a similar fate only by feigning death, after he had been shot. He exhibited to the Associated Press correspondent two bullet wounds in his left shoulder. Another priest, the Rev. Thomas Popovitch, of Piot, escaped by fleeing across the mountain road.

The murder of the priests took place November 25, 1915, in the village of Kremencia, about 35 miles east of Nish, according to the story of Father Yontschitch, which follows:

Father Yontschitch in company with 22 other Serbian priests was taken by Bulgarians from Piot to Nish where they were thrown into a cell and forced to live for five days without food or water. After his release he and his companions, who included Lieutenant Tasa Grevitch of the Serbian army, were marched by their captors for 13 hours to Bela Palanka, 30 miles east of Nish, an armed guard walking behind each.

About two hours walk from Bela Palanka, the priests came to a halt and were ordered to turn off the road into a very small valley to the right. It was after midnight and half a moon gave the only illumination to the lonely mountain roads and valleys. The priests had not gone far when the guards shot them in their backs.

Father Yontschitch dragged himself in the darkness behind a large rock whence he could see the whole scene of murder being enacted by the Bulgarians.

He saw his colleagues dragged, some dead, some half alive, to pyres which had been prepared for them, and their bodies thrown to the flames.

ANTI-PAVING BILL ALMOST CAUSES FIGHT

REPRESENTATIVE SCHUBEL IN HOUSE CHARGES WARREN CON. CO. WITH GRAFT

SMITH SAYS HE IS THE MAN

Was Offered Money to "Sit Tight and Vote"—Promises to Tell All at Committee Meeting

Salem, Ore., Feb. 18.—There was intense excitement and threats of personal violence today in the house when Representative Schubel, of Oregon City, speaking on the anti-paving trust amendments to the \$10,000,000 bonding bill, charged that the Warren Construction Company had offered a member of the house money to "sit tight and vote."

Representative Eugene Smith, of Multnomah, arose and said that he was the man. He promised to tell the entire incident before a committee at the proper time.

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Many of the men, said Father Yontschitch, were still alive when the Bulgarians saturated their bodies with gasoline and set them afire. Flames spread about them and they pleaded piteously for mercy, but their pleas were met with sneers. After the flames had spent themselves, said Father Yontschitch, the charred bodies of 21 victims were thrown into two holes. Arms, legs, heads, he said, were left protruding, exposed to the ravages of dogs and wolves that invest the mountains in the neighborhood.

The Bulgarians left the scene before daybreak. Father Yontschitch made his way on foot to the village of Ponor, and eventually to Piot, his home. From that time, 21 months he concealed himself from the Bulgarians under the floor of the house.

He lived almost like a rat, food being lowered to him through a hole in the floor. The Associated Press correspondent visited this place and saw the wretched conditions under which Yontschitch lived. When the priest emerged from his self-imposed confinement, his appearance had so changed that his friends failed to recognize him. He was later seized by the Bulgarians and sent to a prison camp at Eski Djuma near the Roumanian frontier, where for three months his only food was a slice of bread and a few pieces of leek each day. When the war ceased, Father Yontschitch and 150 other Serbian priests were returned home.

To confirm the priest's story, the correspondent visited the spot where the victims of the massacre were buried. The place is obscured on all sides by mountains. Many bones, skulls, and parts of priests' vestments being scattered about in confusion. The correspondent found near the bones a number of empty cartridges of Bulgarian manufacture. Little candles had been placed in the ground by local peasants who came each day to say prayers over the graves after the Bulgarian evacuation.

An international investigating commission is expected soon to examine the scene.

SALARY BILLS ARE CAUSE OF DEBATES

Legislature Flooded With Them. Overlapping Commission Costly. 600 Bills Introduced

State Capitol, Salem, Ore., Feb. 18.—Big fights were waged the past week over salary raises proposed for state and county officials. There is a flood of these bills and a growing disposition to reject same. Secretary of State Olcott hit the program to raise salaries of four principal state officials a body blow by denying that he had any knowledge of the proposition. He says financial status of the state is not such as to warrant salary increases. He hits the salary bills a further blow by asking if the bill passes, it shall not apply to his office during the present term. That strikes the weakest point in all salary bills, that incumbents accepted office for the present term at salary fixed by law and legislature has no moral or legal right to change terms of contract.

The republican party is in absolute control of state government. There are about nine democrats in the legislature out of 90 members in both houses. The dominant party is pledged to consolidate boards and commissions and cut down overhead expenses an increase efficiency of the state government. It appropriated thousands of dollars at the last session on a consolidation commission and the money was spent on an expert to formulate a report, which was done, showing that nearly a million dollars could be saved every two years by injecting business methods instead of present top-heavy overlapping commission system. But the first bill to accomplish this result was downed with a whoop, and job-holders are triumphant over the taxpayers.

The state treasurer's office has been before the ways and means committee with a demand for better safeguarding of the people's cash. Several millions in cash and bonds are stored in an old-fashioned vault that would not be used by any modern banking house. Treasurer Hoff has asked for better safe and vault equipment with time locks. Nothing has been granted so far. So he has had an expert change the combinations on the vault doors from what they were under his predecessor. It is some years since the books have been experted and that will probably be done after rush of work caused by the legislature.

Up to Friday night of last week only about 40 bills had reached the governor out of about 600 introduced. This legislature has paid little attention to the limitation on introduction of bills and so far it has been very slow in passing bills. No big piece of legislation has reached the executive office and no veto has fallen.

SEATTLE STRIKE FAR FROM BEING SETTLED

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 18.—With many indications of the possibility that the shipyard strike might be settled before midnight, union leaders and Dr. L. C. Marshall of the Macy board, went into conference today.

Seattle, Feb. 18.—The conference between the Macy board representatives and the shipyard owners will decide whether the Puget Sound shipyards will be opened tomorrow. The strike seems far from a settlement.

+ REDS BADLY BEATEN BY GENERAL DENIKINE +

Odessa, Feb. 18.—The anti-Bolshevik army of General Denikine has reached the Caspian Sea, having advanced 350 versts and captured 31,000 prisoners, eight armored trains and 90 guns.

IDAHO SENATOR REQUESTS TO BE EXCUSED

SENATOR BORAH WILL NOT ATTEND PRESIDENT'S DINNER AT THE WHITE HOUSE

OPPOSED TO LEAGUE TERMS

Condemns "Closed Meeting" Custom and Will Not Bind Himself to Keep Silent

Washington, Feb. 18.—Senator Borah, of Idaho, has asked to be excused from attending the dinner at the White House at which President Wilson will discuss with members of the foreign relations committee the constitution of the proposed league of nations. In a letter to Secretary Taft, Senator Borah said it was the custom to hold in confidence any information received at such gatherings and that he was not willing to be bound to silence on such an important subject on which he and the president disagreed fundamentally. He said nothing could make him agree with the constitution of the league of nations as it now stands.

No other members of the committee has declined the invitation. Senator Borah's letter was wireless to President Wilson.

The dinner is arranged for February 26. Debate in the senate is expected to break out tomorrow, despite the president's request that congress await the discussion of the peace league terms until he returns to explain the matter fully.

BALLPLAYERS TO CARE FOR THEIR INJURED

Milwaukee, Wis., Feb. 18.—Club owners of the American association plan to take care of members of their teams injured in the war, according to A. F. Timme, president of the Milwaukee club.

"That has been our attitude from the time our players left for the army and navy," Mr. Timme said. "I am of the opinion the club owners will set aside part of the receipts for players wounded in France and incapacitated for life. Tommy Quinn, outfielder for Joe Tinker of the Columbia team, had the worst luck of any ball player in our organization, so far as we have been able to learn. Two of the Milwaukee players saw active service, but neither suffered injuries."

WILL PUT WAGE DISPUTE UP TO BAKER AND WILSON

New York, Feb. 18.—Representatives of the building trades employers' association and the striking building trades workers have each announced they would send committees to meet Secretary of War Baker and Secretary of Labor Wilson at Washington tomorrow, in an attempt to settle the nation-wide strike, effective yesterday, on contracts held by the employers' association.

OREGON ARTILLERYMEN HAVE RETURNED HOME

Newport News, Va., Feb. 18.—The transport Mercury, with 3,000 returned troops, has arrived after a stormy voyage. The Mercury bought the 65th coast artillery corps complete, comprising men from Oregon and Washington.